



The Grantham Canal Society's (GCS's) primary ambition is to restore the whole 33 mile length of the canal to full navigability from the River Trent through to Grantham whilst also respecting the Bio-Diversity, the wild life and the well-being that walkers and cyclists get from being by water.

We have achieved a lot in the last few years by:

- Completing the rebuilding of Locks 14 and 15
- Currently completing the rebuilding of Lock 13 with just Lock 12 to be refurbished when 13 is finished.
- Creating a new Slipway to repair our boats
- And the biggest plus was to successfully complete the feasibility study to determine a new connection into the River Trent through Adbolton Lane from Gamston Bridge.

We have been in the past very much Eastern Centric with our operations but in recent times we have turned our attention to the west and developed maintenance work in Cotgrave, Gamston and Lady Bay. We are very pleased that the WeBCan Group are going so well, and we are looking to support the Group and are engaging on an engineering study to look at the refurbishment of Lock 2.

In addition we have started a pilot scheme to look at the rewatering of the dry section in Cropwell Bishop which could be achieved on a phased construction plan. We have spent time with the Montgomery Canal Society in North Wales looking at the solution they have employed to bring water back into dry sections of their canal.

GCS have a lot of initiatives going on we are investing in more boats to complete silt clearance and eventually in the future we may be able to parachute this equipment into the western sector of the canal to clear selected sections.

Funding is a big part of our activities, and we have a team of volunteers constantly making applications and recently we were successful with South Kesteven District Council with an award which has helped us to purchase dredging equipment.

So exciting and positive times for GCS and their volunteers. We must remember that without the unquestionable support of our volunteer base we would not have achieved the restoration work completed so far.

A big THANK YOU to all those involved but still a long way to go!!

Tony Osbond – General Manager Grantham Canal Society